

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WSHDC 5766

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 15010

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, FR, UR

SUBJ: SOVIET-FRENCH AGREEMENT ON CIVIL AVIATION COOPERATION

REF: (A) MOSCOW 14002; (B) STATE 230833

1. USSR AND FRANCE DID SIGN 5-YEAR AGREEMENT ON SCIENTIFIC-TECHNICAL AND INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION IN SPHERE OF CIVIL AVIATION AND AVIATION INDUSTRY DURING VISIT TO MOSCOW OF FRENCH PRESIDENT BUT NEW PACT WAS SIGNED BY RESPECTIVE FOREIGN MINISTERS. AMONG AREAS FOR COOPERATION ARE: AIRCRAFT CONSTRUCTION, INCLUDING STUDY OF POSSIBILITY FOR DESIGN AND PRODUCTION OF NEW TYPES OF CIVIL AIRCRAFT AND AIRCRAFT EQUIPMENT; NEW MATERIALS AND ALLOYS UTILIZED IN AIRCRAFT CONSTRUCTION; AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ON SUPERSONIC CIVIL AIRCRAFT AND THEIR USE. COOPERATION IN LATTER SPHERE WILL, HOWEVER, BE DETERMINED WITH "REGARDS FOR NATIONAL PROGRAMS."

2. COMMENT - AGREEMENT IS GENERAL IN SCOPE AND PROVIDES THAT ANY ECONOMIC COOPERATION DEVELOPING OUT OF IT WILL BE SUBJECT TO FUTURE CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS AMONG INTERESTED PARTIES. NO SPECIFIC TYPES OF AIRCRAFT FOR POSSIBLE JOINT DESIGN AND MANUFACTURE ARE MENTIONED AND POSSIBLE COOPERATION IN SUPERSONIC AIRCRAFT SPHERE SEEMS TO BE LIMITED TO SCOPE. METHODS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF AGREEMENT RUN ALONG USUAL LINES OF EXCHANGE OF SPECIALISTS,
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AND SCIENTIFIC-TECHNICAL INFORMATION, JOINT SYMPOSIA,

AND STUDY OF POSSIBILITY FOR JOINT PLANNING AND
IMPLEMENTATION OF SCIENTIFIC-RESEARCH PROGRAMS AND
PROJECTS. TEXT OF AGREEMENT TENDS CONFIRM EARLIER
IMPRESSION, REFTEL A, THAT NEW PACT IS MAINLY
COSMETIC AND IS UNLIKELY HAVE MUCH SUBSTANTIVE IMPACT.
STOESSEL

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